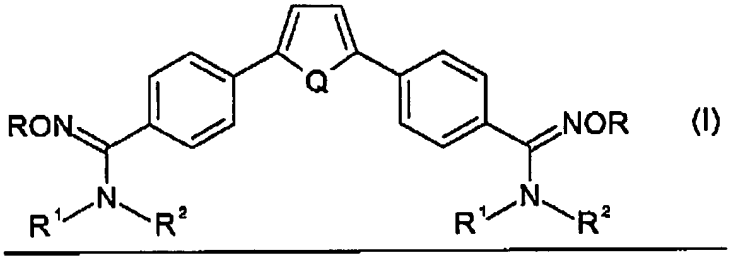
Serial No.: 10/722,085

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method of preparing a bis-aryl diamidoxime compound[[,]] of formula (I):



(I)

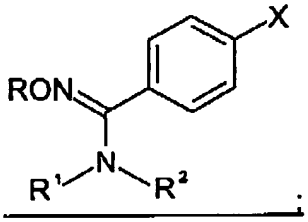
wherein:

R, R^1, and R^2 are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of H, aryl, linear alkyl, cyclic alkyl, and branched alkyl;

Q is selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH and CH_2; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

the method comprising:

(a) contacting an amidoxime aryl halide with a 2,5-bis tri-alkylstannane compound under an anhydrous gas to form a first reaction mixture, wherein the amidoxime aryl halide has the following structure:

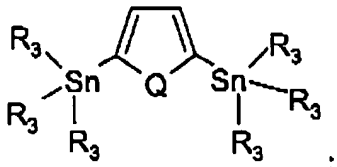


;

wherein R, R^1, and R^2 are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of H, aryl, linear alkyl, cyclic alkyl, and branched alkyl; and X is halogen; and

Serial No.: 10/722,085

wherein the 2,5-bis trialkylstannane has the following structure:



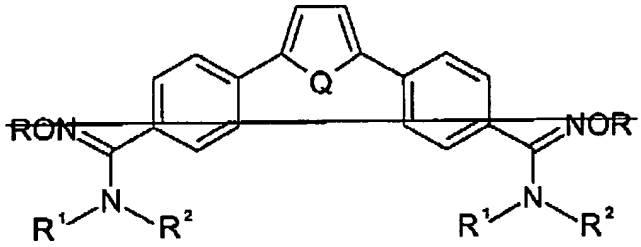
;

wherein R_3 is lower alkyl and Q is selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH and CH_2;

(b) adding an anhydrous aprotic solvent and a palladium catalyst to the first reaction mixture to form a second reaction mixture; and

(c) refluxing the second reaction mixture for a period of time, whereby a bis-aryl diamidoxime compound of formula (I) is prepared.

2. (Canceled) ~~A method of preparing a bis-aryl diamidoxime compound having the structure:~~



~~wherein R, R^1, and R^2 are the same or different and are selected from the group consisting of H, aryl, linear alkyl, cyclic alkyl, and branched alkyl; Q is selected from the group consisting of O, S, NH and CH_2; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.;~~

~~the method comprising:~~

~~(a) contacting an amidoxime aryl halide with a 2,5-bis tri-alkylstannane under an anhydrous gas to form a first reaction mixture;~~

Serial No.: 10/722,085

~~(b) adding an anhydrous aprotic solvent and a palladium catalyst to the first reaction mixture to form a second reaction mixture; and~~

~~(c) refluxing the second reaction mixture for a period of time, whereby a bis-aryl diamidoxime compound is prepared.~~

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1[[2]], wherein the amidoxime aryl halide is selected from the group consisting of *p*-bromobenzamidoxime, O-methyl-*p*-bromobenzamidoxime and O-*n*-propyl-*p*-bromobenzamidoxime.

4. (Canceled) ~~The method of claim 2, wherein the 2,5-bis-tri-alkylstannane comprises a moiety selected from the group consisting of furan, thiophene, pyrrole, and cyclopentadiene.~~

5. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1[[2]], wherein the anhydrous gas is selected from the group consisting of nitrogen and argon.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1[[2]], wherein the anhydrous aprotic solvent is selected from the group consisting of dioxane and dimethylformamide.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1[[2]], wherein the palladium catalyst is tetrakis(triphenylphosphene)palladium(0).

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1[[2]], wherein the refluxing is for a period of about 16 hours.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1[[2]], further comprising:

(a) following the refluxing, removing the aprotic solvent to form a residue;

(b) diluting the residue into a nonpolar solvent to form a solvated residue;

(c) filtering the solvated residue to form a filtered residue;

(d) washing the filtered residue with a wash solvent to form a washed residue; and

(e) drying the residue.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the nonpolar solvent is selected from the group consisting of ethers, alkanes and methylene chloride.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the wash solvent is selected from the group consisting of an ether, an alkane, methylene chloride, ethyl acetate, ethanol and combinations thereof.